GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1574
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016
BIS Bill-2015
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the main features and present status of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Bill, 2015;
(b) whether the Government has taken note of the concerns raised by Small and Medium Steel Industries particularly from Punjab regarding their very survival under the changed law; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to address their concerns?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) : The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Act, 2016, has been notified by the Government on 22, March 2016.

The main features of the BIS Act, 2016, inter-alia includes:
(i) to establish the Bureau of Indian standards (BIS) as the National Standards Body of India;

(ii) to allow multiple types of conformity assessment schemes;

(iii) to enable the Government to bring under the mandatory certification regime such goods, article, process system or service which it considers necessary from the point of view of public interest, or human, animal, or plant health, safety of the environment, prevention of unfair trade practices, and national security;

(iv) to enable the Government to make hallmarking of precious metal articles, mandatory;

(v) to provide for recall of products bearing the Standard Mark, but not conforming to relevant Indian Standards; and

(vi) to strengthen penal provisions, enable compounding of offences, and also make certain offences as cognizable.

(b) & (c): Department of Consumer Affairs held wide spread consultations with all the stakeholders i.e. Govt. Departments/Ministries, Industry associations, Consumer organizations etc and the bill was also placed on Department's website for public comments before finalization of draft BIS bill. The comments received, concerns raised by stakeholders were considered and taken care of while drafting the bill.

Ministry of Steel has received several requests/suggestions from All India Steel Re-rollers Association (AISRA) & All India Induction Furnace Association (AIIFA), in relation to the Steel and Steel Products (Quality Control) Order, 2015 which are, however, not related to the concerns of small and medium industries under the changed law.
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